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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

**INFORMATION REPORT**

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

SUBJECT Conditions in Industrial Plants

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DATE DISTR. 8 Dec 53

NO. OF PAGES 2

NO. OF ENCLS.

SUPP. TO  
REPORT NO.

25X1

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. **Lowa-Waggonbau, Ammensdorf near Halle.** Plant manufactures express train coaches, freight cars, and tank and repair-shop cars for Soviet motorized units. Raw material is delivered from Unterwellenborn; wheel and axle sets from Lova-Görlitz. A train of 10 express coaches and 10 freight cars goes to the Soviet Union each week. Informant states explicitly that these are narrow-gauge cars. Up to 100 tank wagons go periodically to Poland and the Soviet Union. These deliveries are routed via Cottbus and Frankfurt an der Oder.
2. **Zuckerrübenfabrik "Vorwärts", Halle-Saale.** This plant delivered 4,000 tons of sugar to the Soviet Union by the end of September 1953. The deliveries were combined with the car transports from Lova-Waggonbau at Ammensdorf.
3. **Kraftwerk Muldenstein (Kreis Bitterfeld).** This power plant was dismantled at the end of the war and carried away to the Soviet Union as reparations. Parts of the machinery were strewn along railway lines in East Prussia, where they remained lying along the embankments until 1952. In May 1952 the Soviet Zone Government bought back the plant from the Soviet Union for 12,000 East marks, and reinstalled it at Muldenstein, although only a small part of the machinery and equipment was serviceable.
4. **VEB-Kreisbaustellenbetrieb Neu-Ruppin (Potsdam).** This plant employs 450 hands. The technical director is named Müller; he belongs to no party. The plant is engaged exclusively in the manufacture of steel girders (U-beams and T-beams).
5. **Aluminiumwerk "Leutawerke", Hoyerswerda near Senftenberg (formerly I.G. Farben-Betrieb).** The plant employs about 2,000 hands, including 1,200 women. The works

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director is a SED party member named Heinrich Mai, about 50 years old. At the present time the plant is exclusively engaged in the production of aluminum oxide. It receives bauxite from Rumania and Hungary, and soda from domestic sources. The entire output goes as reparations to the Soviet Union. This plant was dismantled after the end of the war, and the furnaces and other equipment taken to the Soviet Union. It was reconstructed between 1949 and 1952. The work was done by the Bauunion Brandenburg.

6. Kunstseidenwerk Premnitz (Kreis Rathenow). This plant employs 3,800 hands, of whom 2,500 are women. An illegal strike organization exists in the plant. It makes rayon and perlon fabrics. About 70 percent of the production is first quality goods for export, and about 30 percent is second quality for the Soviet Zone domestic trade. The daily production in 1950 was 8 to 10 tons of fabrics; 1951, 10 to 13 tons; 1952, 13 to 15 tons; 1953, about 16 tons. Production is to be increased to 24 tons daily by 1954. Supplies of cellulose come from Pirna; carbon disulphide and carbon disulphide acid from the VEB-Döberitz near Premnitz (this was formerly a branch of the Köln-Rottweiler A.G.). The Premnitz plant itself has an out-of-date installation for the manufacture of carbon disulphide, but its capacity is inadequate. The autoclave superheaters are from West Germany. Extensive industrial construction was carried out in the plant and completed in March 1953 by the VEB-Bauunion Brandenburg-Musterwitz. It included a factory annex, chemical research laboratory, and a chemical research laboratory exclusively for perlon. All the new construction is steel concrete.
7. SAG-Gerätebau Schönebeck-Elbe, near Magdeburg.- This plant employs 1,000 hands, including 250 women. Max Fabian is the plant manager. The sales manager is named Elze. The plant manufactures charging stations for Soviet escort vehicles. There were 32 of these in the plant on 29 Sep. 53 to receive new charging stations. Diesel engines of various types are also manufactured, some of which were shown at the last Leipzig Fair. Deliveries go to the Soviet Union and Soviet bloc states. Recently, there have been growing marketing difficulties because of faulty work on the engines delivered, especially from brittleness and cracking of the gray castings of the engine blocks.
8. SAG-Kugellagerfabrik Böhlnitz-Ehrenberg (Gutenbergstrasse 6). This plant employs about 2,000 hands, including 700 women. It manufactures ball bearings of all kinds, and also outer plates (Gehäusescheiben) for Soviet T-34 tanks. Bearings from 10 mm up to two meters diameter are kept in stock; also bearings for revolving turrets. The stock types all have the Deutsche Kugellagerfabrik (DKF) stamp. This plant remains the property of the Soviet Aktiengesellschaft (SAG) and has not yet been turned over to the People's Republic (DDR). There are no raw material bottlenecks because the raw material comes from the Soviet Union. The entire output is shipped to the Soviet Union.
9. Sodawerk "Fred Ulsner," at Stassfurt.- The quotas and production of this plant under the "old" and "new" plans compare as follows: old plan quota, 200 tons daily; production 200 to 215 tons. New plan quota, 300 tons daily; production 200 tons.

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